

# North Carolina 2020 Census Talking Points

The <u>North Carolina Complete Count Commission</u> (NC CCC) and its many partners across the state are committed to making the 2020 Census a success for our state. Visit <u>census.nc.gov</u> for more information and resources.

#### **General Points – Why the Census Matters**

The Census is required by the US Constitution to apportion seats in the House of Representatives.

- North Carolina is estimated to gain a seat in Congress
- Apportionment is based on Census counts not estimates
- Participation matters!

Federal and State funding formulas rely on Census data to distribute funds.

- More than \$16 billion in federal funds were obligated in NC in FY2015 based on Census numbers
- That's \$1,623 per person, per year in federal funds and about \$200 per person in state funds
- Participating in the Census brings your tax dollars back to your community

Local planners, businesses and service providers use Census data to plan for the future.

## **Timeline Points – What We Can Expect**

- National Census advertising will begin in Fall 2019 and run through Census Day, April 1, 2020.
- Census Day is April 1, 2020.
- Census postcards will be mailed to residents in mid-March 2020.
- This is the first Census in history to allow internet responses using a computer or mobile device.
- People also can respond by phone or request a paper form.
- Census Enumerators will knock on doors during Non-Response Follow-Up in mid-April 2020.

## **Operational Points – How the Census Works**

- EVERYONE counts!
  - o Children, seniors, military, old, young, homeless—if you're in NC, you count for NC!
- Census responses are **SELF-reported information**.
  - You report your race, gender, ethnicity, etc. as <u>you</u> identify.
- Census participation is mandatory.
- You can leave questions blank, but it increases the likelihood of being visited by a Census Enumerator, knocking on your door to complete the questionnaire.
- Census support will be available in more than 60 languages and American Sign Language.

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## **Confidentiality Points – Participating is Safe**

- Your Census answers cannot be shared with anyone for 72 years.
  - Your personal information cannot be shared with law enforcement, immigration, IRS, service providers, etc.
  - Title 13 of the US Code protects your information.
- The Census does not ask for your social security number, bank account information, or request donations.
- Census forms and workers will be clearly identified.

## Jobs Points – Working for the Census

- The Census is hiring.
- Hourly rate is no lower than \$13.50 per hour plus mileage and expenses. Find your pay rate here.
- Apply online as soon as possible. Review and processing take time.
  - Visit census.nc.gov for more information.
  - Visit <u>2020Census.gov/jobs</u> to apply.

## **Engagement Points – How to I Get Involved**

- Start/join your local Complete Count Committee
  - Visit census.nc.gov for information.
  - o Find a Complete Count Committee near you.
  - Be a trusted voice for Census participation in your neighborhood, office, congregation, etc.
- Share the importance of Census participation
  - Visit <u>census.nc.gov</u> to learn how you can help and for helpful promotional items and resources.
- Sign up to the NC Census listsery to receive weekly updates and resources here.
- Contact the North Carolina Complete Count Commission
  - o Visit census.nc.gov for information.
  - Email <u>census2020@nc.gov</u> with inquiries, to request a census representative to speak at an event or with a group, etc.

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